

Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Limited

HINCKLEY NATIONAL RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Chapter 20: Cumulative and in-combination effects

January 2022

This document forms a part of a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) for the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange project.

A PEIR presents environmental information to assist consultees to form an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of a proposed development and provide feedback.

This PEIR has been prepared by the project promoter, Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Limited. The Proposed Development is described in Chapter 3 of the PEIR and is the subject of a public consultation running from 12 January to 9 March 2022.

Details of how to respond to the public consultation are provided at the end of Chapter 1 of the PEIR and on the project website:

<http://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/>

This feedback will be taken into account by Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Limited in the preparation of its application for a Development Consent Order for the project.

Chapter 20 ◆ Cumulative and in-combination effects

INTRODUCTION

20.1 Schedule 4 paragraph 5 of the EIA Regulations requires:

‘A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment resulting from, inter alia: (e) the cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects, taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources’.
The text goes on to state that *‘the description of the likely significant effects on the factors specified in regulation 5(2) should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short-term, medium-term and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development’.*

20.2 The EIA for the HNRFI will assess the **cumulative effects** of the Proposed Development and other development projects at both the construction and operational phases. At this stage the assessment is at a preparatory stage and the full assessment will be set out in the ES submitted with the application for the Proposed Development.

20.3 The ES will also provide an analysis of the **in-combination effects** that might arise where receptors experience multiple potentially non-significant effects from a range of impacts, which taken together might become significant – for example, noise and visual effects experienced in combination.

20.4 This chapter of the PEIR explains TSH’s proposed approach for assessment of these effects.

METHODOLOGY

Cumulative effects

20.5 According to the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note Seventeen: Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects (version 2, August 2019, paragraph 3.1.1):

‘Other existing development and/or approved development’ likely to result in significant cumulative effects should be identified and assessed by the applicant in the Cumulative Environmental Assessment (CEA)in order to establish the relevant ‘other existing development and/or approved development’ the applicant should determine the Zone of Influence (ZOI) for each environmental aspect considered within the ES . . .’.

20.6 The ZOI for each aspect will be documented within the ES in tabular form. The ‘other existing development and/or approved development’ will be identified by reference to planning applications, relevant development plans and any other available sources including stakeholder consultations, in particular with the relevant planning authorities.

20.7 The following principles of the four stage assessment approach to cumulative assessment, as outlined in Advice Note 17, will be adopted in the ES for the HNRFI:

- **Stage 1:** Establish the Project's Zone of Influence (ZOI) and Long List of 'other existing development and/or approved development'
- **Stage 2:** Establish a shortlist of 'other existing development and/or approved development' and apply a threshold criterion based on temporal scope, the scale and nature of development and any other relevant factors to assist in deciding whether to include or exclude the 'other existing development and/or approved development' identified;
- **Stage 3:** Information Gathering – compile detailed information on the 'other existing development and/ or approved development' shortlisted at Stage 2 including design and location, programme of construction, operation and decommissioning and environmental assessment information;
- **Stage 4:** Assessment – assess the cumulative effects of the Proposed Development with the shortlist of 'other existing development and/or approved development' based on factors including duration of effect, extent of effect, type of effect, frequency of effect, value and resilience of receptors and likely success of mitigation.

20.8 To enable a reasonable and proportionate assessment, the following criteria has been used to identify schemes which could result in potential cumulative effects with the Proposed Development in accordance with Table 2 in Advice Note 17:

- projects under construction;
- permitted application(s), but not yet implemented;
- submitted application(s), not yet determined;
- projects on the Planning Inspectorate's Programme of Projects where a scoping report has not been submitted;
- development allocations identified in the relevant Development Plan (and emerging Development Plans – with appropriate weight);
- development allocations identified in other plans and programmes (as appropriate) which set the framework for future development consents/approvals, where such development is reasonably likely to come forward.

20.9 Planning applications that have been refused and are not subject to appeal, and applications that have been withdrawn, will not be considered, as their implementation is not considered to be reasonably foreseeable.

20.10 Using these categories, developments have been identified by reference to the large application dataset an on-line database maintained by Glenigan, within an initial 5 km

radius of the Main Order Limits. For the purposes of this assessment, the other works outside of the Main Order Limits, such as junction improvements, have been excluded as they are not considered to be a source of significant cumulative effects. The initial 'long list' of 'other developments' is included in Appendix 20.1 of this PEIR and illustrated in Figure 20.1; this list will now proceed to Stage 2, as described above and will be reviewed in consultation with the relevant local planning authorities, to identify any other development in the area of the Proposed Development that should be considered prior to the completion of the ES.

In-combination effects

- 20.11 As explained above, the ES will also consider the in-combination effects. The in-combination effects identified in the technical topic chapters will be assessed using professional judgement and a qualitative assessment approach. To determine whether there is potential for a significant in-combination effect on an individual receptor, all residual effects for the HNRFI will be listed against the individual receptors affected, so that receptors that might be affected by more than one impact can be identified.
- 20.12 Where only neutral or negligible effects are identified, it would normally be considered that there is no potential for in-combination effects.

The current consultation

- 20.13 Consultees are invited to confirm the shortlist of projects to be considered in the assessment of cumulative effects to ensure that the shortlist of 'other existing development and/or approved development' identified for the CEA is comprehensive and accurate.